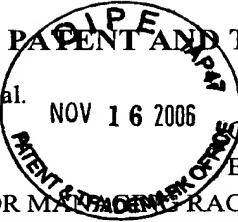


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Sakae ISHIKAWA, et al. NOV 16 2006  
SERIAL NO: 09/848,764 USAU: 3653  
FILED: May 4, 2001 EXAMINER: Michael E. BUTLER  
FOR: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR MANAGING RACK OPERATION, METHOD OF AND SYSTEM  
FOR MANAGING MULTISTAGE RACK, ARTICLE CONVEYANCE AND STORAGE DEVICE,  
AND COMPUTER PRODUCT



**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

This is a request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

**Previously Submitted:**

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on
  - Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on

Enclosed:

- Amendment/Reply
  - Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - Other:

FEES	RATE	CALCULATIONS
<input type="checkbox"/> Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of months.	\$200.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE Fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e)	\$790.00	\$790.00
<input type="checkbox"/>		\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>		\$0.00
<b>TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS:</b>		<b>\$790.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> REDUCTION BY 50% FOR FILING AS SMALL ENTITY		\$0.00
<b>TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$790.00</b>

- A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed
  - Credit card payment form is attached to cover the fees in the amount of \$790.00
  - Please charge any additional Fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary extension of time may be charged to Deposit Account No. 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

James J. Kulbaski  
Registration No. F341648

790.00 OP

### Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000  
Fax. (703) 413-2220

Edwin D. Garlepp  
Registration No. 45 330